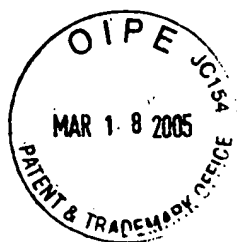


RCE 2815  
ZWW



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

March 16, 2005  
Date

*Mary Paul*  
Signature

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
AXEL PREUSSE  
MARKUS NOPPER  
HOLGER SCHÜHRER

Group Art Unit: 2815

Examiner: Edward J. Wojciechowiecz

Serial No.: 10/747,722

Atty. Dkt. No.: 2000.109700/DE0351

Filed: December 29, 2003

Customer No.: 23720

For: METHOD OF REDUCING WAFER  
CONTAMINATION BY REMOVING  
UNDER-METAL LAYERS AT THE  
WAFER EDGE

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-identified application.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendments referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other:

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01 FC:1801 790.00 DA

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement  
(IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declarations

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2.

Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3.

Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-0365/DE0351:

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON  
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 23720



Date: March 16, 2005

J. Mike Amerson  
Reg. No. 35,426  
10333 Richmond, Suite 1100  
Houston, Texas 77042  
(713) 934-4055  
(713) 934-7011 (facsimile)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS